

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

Matthew B. HOYT et al

Atty. Ref.: 1005-189

Serial No. UNASSIGNED

Group: 1771

Filed: January 30, 2002

Examiner: C. Pratt

For: DYED SHEATH/CORE FIBERS AND METHODS OF MAKING SAME

* * * * *

January 31, 2002

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please insert the following paragraph before the first line on page 1:

This application is a division of Application No. 09/844,269, filed April 30, 2001, the entire content of which is hereby incorporated by reference in this application.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-19 and add the following new claims.

21. (NEW) The filament of claim 20, which is a trilobal filament.

22. (NEW) The filament of claim 20, having less than about 10 wt.% of the sheath polymer.

23. (NEW) The filament of claim 22, which has between about 90 wt.% to about 97 wt.% of the core polymer, and between about 3 wt.% to about 10 wt.% of the sheath polymer.

24. (NEW) The filament of claim 23, wherein the core polymer is a nylon having an amine end group content (AEG) of between about 10 meq/kg to about 100 meq/kg, and wherein the sheath polymer is a nylon having an AEG of less than about 10 meq/kg.

25. (NEW) The filament of claim 24, wherein the nylon sheath polymer has an AEG content of less than about 5 meq/kg.

26. (NEW) The filament of claim 25, wherein the nylon sheath polymer is a nylon-6,12 homopolymer.

27. (NEW) The filament of claim 20, wherein the core is a nylon polymer which is at least one selected from the group consisting of nylon-6, nylon-12, nylon-11, nylon-6/6, nylon-6/10 and copolymers and blends thereof.

28. (NEW) The filament of claim 27, wherein the core nylon polymer has an amino end group (AEG) content of between about 10 meq/kg and about 100 meq/kg.

REMARKS

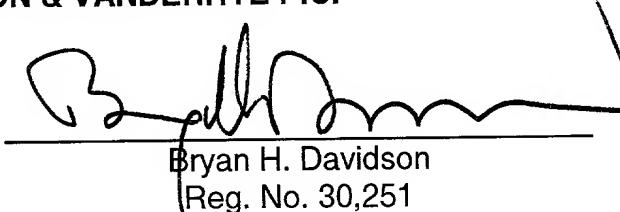
By way of the amendment instructions above, claims 1-19 directed to patentably distinct inventions have been cancelled. Claims 21-28 have been presented and are dependent directly or indirectly from independent claim 20.

Accordingly, an early and favorable action on the merits of pending claims 20-28 is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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